

REMARKS

In the Office Action of March 27, 2006, claims 26, 28, 29, and 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Tuomaala U.S. Patent 4,257,301 ("Tuomaala"); claim 27 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Tuomaala* in view of Achterberg et al. U.S. Des. Patent 388,318 ("Achterberg"); claim 18 was rejected under §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Tuomaala* in view of Kirbach et al. U.S. Patent No. 4,854,207 ("Kirbach"); and claims 31-33 were allowed.

In response to the Office Action, Applicant has canceled claim 18 and Applicant presents amended claim 26. New claim 34 also is presented, which represents a combination of claim 26 and allowed claim 31.

Applicant requests reconsideration of claim 26 in view of the following remarks and the interview that was held with the Examiner on July 21, 2006. Applicant submits that no new matter is added by amendment herein.

I. The Telephonic Interview Held on July 21st

A brief telephonic interview was held by the undersigned with Examiner Rachuba on July 21, 2006. During the interview, Applicant proposed amendments to claim 26. Applicant further set forth remarks, as substantially reflected below. During the interview, agreement was reached that the amendments to claim 26 as substantially set forth above would overcome the rejection thereof set forth in the Office Action of March 27th.

II. The Leading Corner and Trailing Edge Design of Claim 26 Patentably Defines over the References of Record

The present invention relates to a circular saw blade that has a planar saw body and a cutting edge that encircles the planar saw body as shown, for example, in Fig. 4 of the present application. The saw body includes a planar annular section, also as illustrated in Fig. 4. The annular section has oppositely facing parallel surfaces which are intended to pass directly between lubricating guide supports when the saw blade is used in a saw arrangement as shown, for example, in Fig. 1. The annular section further has a substantially uniform axial thickness between the oppositely facing parallel surfaces. The annular section thereby generally lies in a

plane. The planar annular section of the saw body also defines a plurality of liquid transport cavities therein, and each one of the cavities is sufficient (i.e., has a sufficient area and dimension) to receive liquid therein for transport, such as from lubricating guide supports of the saw arrangement of Fig.1.

With particular regard to claim 26, each cavity “consists of a generally triangular cross-section,” with each generally triangular cross-section “consisting of a leading corner, a trailing edge, and a narrow-to-wide transition between said leading corner and said trailing edge.” In this respect, the trailing edge is defined to be “the edge of the triangular cross-section having the smallest angle of inclination to a radius of said planar saw body.” This is shown, for example, in FIG. 5 wherein edge 38 clearly has the smallest angle of inclination “ α ” to the radius “R” out of the three illustrated edges of the cavity.

Applicant submits that *Tuomaala* fails to disclose this recited feature of claim 26 as amended. Indeed, *Tuomaala* discloses in Fig. 1 that the strips (9) and peripheral portion (7) actually define openings, each of which includes a leading edge and a trailing corner with respect to the cutting direction (which is counterclockwise with respect to Fig. 1). *Tuomaala* thus fails to disclose an opening having a leading corner and trailing edge as the trailing edge is now defined in claim 26.

Moreover, *Tuomaala* fails to suggest this feature. In particular, as set forth in ¶¶ [0027-0030] of the present application as published, it is believed that the narrow-to-wide transition of the cavity serves both to draw liquid into the cavity for transport as it passes by a lubricating guides, and to drawn air into the cavity displacing the liquid in a turbulent manner for distribution of the liquid as it clears the lubricating guides. Applicant submits that nothing in *Tuomaala*, nor any other reference of record, provides motivation to the ordinary artisan to modify the saw blade of *Tuomaala* so as to arrive at the saw blade currently recited in claim 26.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that claim 26 and claims dependent thereon (and claim 34 including claim 26 as a subset thereof) together stand in condition for allowance.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that all claims now presented for examination stand in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the present application be passed to issue. Furthermore, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned if any further action is deemed necessary by the Examiner in order to gain allowance of the present application, and if such further action may be accomplished through an Examiner's amendment or otherwise.

Respectfully submitted,
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